REMARKS

A. Amendment

Claims 1–17 are cancelled, and claims 18–32 are new. Claims 18–32 are presented for consideration.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1–17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. patent no. 5,652,822 to Sugawara et al. in view of U.S. patent no. 6,002,835 to Watanabe. The rejections are traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested in view of the following.

Claim 18 includes, among other things, "inserting into the composite video signal a frame comprising the even field of the current frame of the first video signal and the odd field of the current frame of the second video signal." It is respectfully submitted that neither Sugawara nor Watanabe, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests inserting into a composite video signal a frame comprising an even field from a frame of a first video signal and an odd field from a frame of a second video signal. It is therefore submitted that claim 18 is allowable over the prior art.

Independent claims 21, 26, and 29 include limitations similar to those of independent claim 18, and it is submitted that these claims are therefore also allowable. Claims 19–20, 22–25, 27–28, and 30–32 depend directly or indirectly upon claims 18, 21, 26, and 29, respectively, and it is therefore further submitted that these claims are allowable based on their inclusion of allowable subject matter.

C. Conclusion

For these reasons, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the claims. To expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is

invited to call the applicant's undersigned representative to discuss any issues relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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